

REMARKS

This Request for Reconsideration is offered in response to the Office Action of March 16, 2006. The Office Action rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Mochizuki (U.S. Patent No. 6,059,405). The Office Action also rejected claims 2-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over the Mochizuki in view of Sakanobe (U.S. Patent No. 6,286,934). Claims 3 and 4 were rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the Mochizuki as modified by Sakanobe as applied to claim 1, and further in view of Ardito (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0191056). Claims 5, 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mochizuki as modified by Sakanobe et al. as applied to claim 1, and further in view of Ardito and Matsumoto (JP61141560). Additionally, claims 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mochizuki in view of Ardito, Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 6,837,577), Matsumoto, and Saito (U.S. Patent No. 4,970,533).

**Mochizuki (U.S. Patent No. 6,059,405)**

As explained during the telephonic interview of June 26, 2006, the claimed invention is characterized by the initial introduction of ink with higher degree of deaeration than that of the ink subsequently introduced into the printing head.

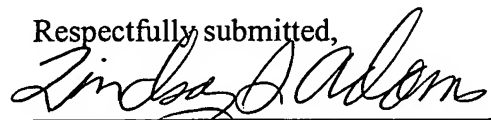
On the other hand, Mochizuki's subsequent introduction of ink with lower degree of deaeration is into the main tank, and not to the printing head as required by the present invention. Mochizuki fails to disclose, teach or suggest ink of a higher degree of deaeration being introduced into the printing head for initial use during the printing and the second or subsequently introduced ink after the initial use to have a lower degree of deaeration than the initially used ink. The second or subsequently introduced ink of the present invention has a

lower degree of deaeration but is introduced directly to the printing head. In Mochizuki, the ink with lower degree of deaeration is introduced into the main tank (see column 4, lines 49-51) and then the ink is deaerated by a deaerator (see column 5, lines 9-16) before the ink is introduced into the relay tank (see column 5, lines 16-23) and then to the print head (see column 5, lines 37-41; Mochizuki – “recording head”). Thus, Mochizuki fails to disclose, teach or suggest ink introduced into the printing head having two different degrees of deaeration during the printing process (i.e., initially introduced ink with high deaeration and second or subsequently introduced ink with lower degree of deaeration).

Since all the rejections to the pending claims are based on Mochizuki or Mochizuki in view of one or more references, all of the rejections should be withdrawn. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If for any reason the claims are not considered in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney so that additional amendments can be entered if required.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due other than the fee for the request for the two (2) month extension of time submitted with this response. However, if any additional fees are due, please charge such sums to our Deposit Account 50-1145.

Respectfully submitted,



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